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OFFICE OF PETITIONS

In re Application of

Engelhardt et al

Application No. 10/717,140

Filed: November 18, 2003

Attorney Docket No. Enz-52(C)(D3)

: DECISION DISMISSING PETITION
: UNDER 37 CFR 1.78(a)(3)

This is a decision on the petition under 37 CFR 1.78(a)(3), filed April 19, 2007, to accept an unintentionally delayed claim under 35 U.S.C. §120 for the benefit of priority to the prior-filed nonprovisional applications set forth in the concurrently filed amendment.

The petition is **DISMISSED**.

A petition for acceptance of a claim for late priority under 37 CFR 1.78(a)(3) is only applicable to those applications filed on or after November 29, 2000 and after the expiration of the period specified in 37 CFR 1.78(a)(2)(ii). In addition, the petition under 37 CFR 1.78(a)(3) must be accompanied by:

- (1) the reference required by 35 U.S.C. § 120 and 37 CFR 1.78(a)(2)(i) of the prior-filed application, unless previously submitted;
- (2) the surcharge set forth in § 1.17(t); and
- (3) a statement that the entire delay between the date the claim was due under 37 CFR 1.78(a)(2)(ii) and the date the claim was filed was unintentional. The Director may require additional information where there is a question whether the delay was unintentional.

The amendment as drafted is unacceptable and, therefore, is not considered a proper reference under 37 CFR 1.78(a)(2)(i). In this regard, the amendment and petition reference the filing date of Application No. 09/302,817 as being filed on February 3, 1998. The accorded filing date for Application No. 09/302,817 is April 16, 1999. Clarification is required.

Before the petition can be granted, petitioner must submit a substitute amendment, along with a renewed petition under 37 CFR 1.78(a)(3).¹

Further correspondence with respect to this matter should be addressed as follows:

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Any questions concerning this matter may be directed to the undersigned at (571) 272-3208.

Karen Creasy
Karen Creasy
Petitions Examiner
Office of Petitions

¹ The claim for priority may also be made in an Application Data Sheet in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121 and 37 CFR 1.76(b)(5).